

A

AVEDANO

## A BIT OF AVEDANO HISTORY

by Lea Avedano Gugelman

Elena Laijola Avedano, Our grandmother (Nonna in Italian) was born in Italy of an Italian father, Antonio Laijola and a German-Swiss mother (maternal surname, Balmer) from Bern, Switzerland. Nonna had a brother who died at an early age.

Nonna was married twice. First husband was her father's choice. Surname was Ferri. They moved to Marseilles, France where their two sons were born. Antonio and Gaetano. After six years of marriage, her husband died and she returned to her father's home in Italy with her two sons. There she met our grandfather, Ferdinando Avedano. (Nonno in Italian) He was of Italian parentage but quite a few generations back the Avedano family immigrated from Spain to Italy. Nonno had one sister, Claudia. (our great-aunt)

Nonno was a soldier in the Italian army when Nonna met him. She fell madly in love with him. (her exact words to me) and married him much against her father's wishes. In fact, her father would have nothing to do with him for a long time. According to Nonna, after they were married he left the army and worked as a waiter in a restaurant. Becoming sort of a singing waiter. Well, one night there came to the restaurant a very well known impressario (connected with opera) In listening to our grandfather singing, he was very impressed. This gentleman took our grandfather under his wing and with guidance and hard study, Nonno became a great opera tenor singing in all the great opera houses in Italy of which one was the La Scala in Milan. When a singer has sung at the La Scala, he has reached the top! In his career he traveled through Egypt, South America, Central America, and the United States. Nonna traveled with him returning home at times to have her children. On his first trip to the United States he came alone and decided to settle in San Francisco, Calif. He then sent for his family. Our Uncle Antonio never came to this country deciding to stay in Italy. Uncle Tanno came with the rest of the family to America in the early 1900's. They were living in San Francisco when the big earthquake of 1906 struck. They lost most of their household belongings in the fire that followed. They had a home on Nob Hill at the time.

As the older children grew, they eventually went their own ways, and left home especially when Nonna decided to return to Italy in 1908. She took the three youngest children, Sylvia, Cesare, and Edward with her. The boys Cesare and Edward were in the Italian army during some of the war years. Edward was taken prisoner by the Germans but managed to get to America with an American group. It helped that Edward knew the English language as he had gone to school here in his early years. The twins stayed in Italy eventually marrying. Nonna came back to the states shortly after the war ended. Nonno's final years were spent in San Rafael, Calif. with Nonna and Uncle Tanno. They had several acres of a fruit orchard there. Nonno was 57 when he passed away of a heart condition. I believe it was in the early 20's when he died. (1921)

Nonna lived to a ripe old age of 85, living with different ones of her sons and daughters here and finally with me except for the last year of her life when she stayed with a close lady friend. She passed away in 1942.

Footnote:

As you can see I've left lots of spaces between the families names etc. as I do not know their names. Please excuse these omissions on my part. Somehow as the years go by we lose contact with one another, a sad failing. Please fill in your family individual names and I would appreciate if you would mail them back to me so I can fill in my copies here. Just the names I've left out, not your copy of the family history. Our gang out here has been after me for ages to write down what I knew of our family. Being the oldest grandchild I guess every one thought I would have more information and especially since I had lived with Nonna for several years. We spoke of her life many times and I have tried to put it down on paper as well as I can remember what was said. Nonna and Nonno had an interesting life, especially Nonna as women of her day did not have the opportunity to do the things she did or go to the countries she visited. I hope all this is of some interest to you and a bit of help in knowing something of your family background.

Love to all from one of your many cousins.

Lea (Lee) Avedano Gugelman

Following Lea's lead I have put these facts together for our family. Any additions or deletions please let one of us know (Lea or myself) so each year we can keep the family record complete. I am also interested in family stories. Paragraphs that we can include to make a warmer record of our dynamic family instead of just facts. I know one thing for sure, our parents, members of the original family, did not speak of their father and mother often. All Dad ever told me was that Nonno had a temper and he and his brothers had run away many times. Dad said Nonno required that they practice their music. He also spoke of the quake, that he had climbed a light pole to watch the city burn. My father leaves a memory with me of happiness and love which he gave us children. He always did things with class. He was an organizer and a diplomat.

Rose L. Martin

Edward Martin's (Avedano) army papers show his name as Eddy A. Martin born in 1898 in San Francisco. We now know he was born in Italy. This must have been how he returned to the states. When the Americans freed the prisoners of war he joined them and returned to the states. Fred and Edward took the name of Martin. Fred used it professionally about 1905.

Shirley M. Martin Beagle

The circle is finally complete!! We know where everyone is (the first cousins) and are able to put together some of the history. With the surprise contact with Rosita Avedano Roach, we are able to fill in the two missing links...Cesare and Sylvia and their families. Shirley Beagle and I talk often about Eddie and Freddie's families. (our respective fathers) In comparing notes, all of us seem to find that our fathers' would not talk about their father and mother. So only by our talking with each other can we begin to put it all together.

My sister, Marjorie McLauchlen told me she always wondered why Dad whistled or sang bits of "Aida"...after I told her that I had found out it was one of grandfathers favorite operas and one of his best to perform she knew why Dad had the knowledge of the music. Claude Avedano has shown me articles in the Italian press about our grandfather. They (the clippings) mentioned that the composer Verdi stated that he knew 'why' he had written the opera after hearing Nonno sing it.

## TRANSLATION OF GRANDFATHER AVEDANO'S OBITUARY

Translated from the Italian to English by Rosita Avedano Roach  
from San Francisco L'Italia 5 February 1921

### The Death of the Tenor Ferdinando Avedano.

With his passing disappears one of the most celebrated Italian artists. After a long and painful illness, which had lasted years but had become acute during the last ten months, he died Thursday evening in his own house in San Rafael. The Maestro Ferdinando Avedano, or more appropriately, the Tenor Ferdinando Avedano earned his fame through his triumphs which he gained on the stage.

With his death vanishes from life and from our colony, one of the most popular men that made himself famous from his art of which he was one of the most celebrated Italian champions. In the last ten years, Avedano had definitely retired from the theatre and given himself to teaching and that was the reason many had lost contact with him and many do not know of his very glorious artistic past of which we would like to rapidly go through.

The Tenor Avedano, came for the first time to San Francisco in the summer of 1899, with the first and best opera company, that the late Mario Lombardy had ever brought to the United States. Of which also was part, the Baritone Salassa, the Soprano Italia Repetto, the Tenor Dominico Barducci and her husband, the Maestro Ugo Barducci, who was director of the orchestra. Many compatriots and Americans will remember the delirious enthusiastic success caused by Avedano with his vast repertoire in which he presented himself, especially Aida, Africana, The Hugenots, Norma, but most of all in Othello in which the lamented artist revealed himself not only a great singer but a great actor.

Avedano was signed up for more successive seasons in the musical circle of the city in which he displayed his ability with his voice, which had in it a silvery timbre with beautiful central notes and acute (acuti) which he used very majestically and artfully. The lamented Avedano had such a pronounced dramatic pronunciation that every note that came from his throat had such touching expression and inflection. The character played by him acquired life and warmth and reality. Especially on Othello Avedano was really extraordinary in the portrayal. In his interpretation of Othello from the immortal Shakespeare and music by Verdi will remain the most happy and admired performance, after the original performer Tamagno. Here we will add that before coming to San Francisco, Avedano made for himself a most enviable name in Italy, South America, where he sang many seasons at the La Scala of Milano. His performance of the opera Norma will remain famous and was judged one of the best. At the La Scala of Milano, Avedano also sang with great success Wagner's Twilight of the Gods. After the triumphant season at the Tivoli Opera House, Avedano showed signs of fatigue, and slowly started deserting the scenes. He came to settle definitely in San Francisco and then kept to the arts and became Maestro of instruction in singing until the other evening he passed away.

Not only his family but also his numerous friends and admirers lament his premature passing. Avedano was also a man with a great heart and generosity and strong patriotic sentiments. He lent himself very kindly to all the philanthropic benefits and also evenings organized by our paper for the raising of funds to the monument of Verdi and also victims of war.

This is a small and meager salute to the memory of an artist and an Italian who passed away. Ferdinando Avedano leaves a wife and nine children of which everyone sends sincerest condolences.

Avedano Obituary continued:

Avedano was only 57 years of age and was the son of a strong Piedmont family, having been born in Cuneo. His funeral will be taking place at 2 P.M. Sunday starting from Casa Mortuary, Valente, Marini, Pirata & Co. and will proceed to the Italian Cemetery.

THE AVEDANO CREST

Copied from the Crest shared with us by Louis Avedano, Mountain View, California family reunion 14 September 1980.

"This is a very old and noble family in Piedmont which surname was used both as Avedano and Aveda. Antonio, son of Gabrielle born at Piacenza in the 14th century, was a celebrated physician and surgeon. Professor of medicine in the University of Padeoa, Bologna, and Ferada.

The allegorical signification of the arms is the following: The mount indicates the old profession of fiefs in mountainous regions. The lion is symbol of command, strength, power and courage. The castle is the emblem of feugatory origin. The symbolical sense of the crescent is to put the bearer in mind of increasing his family fortune and honor. Among those representatives of the Avedano family is Mr. Louis Avedano, son of Luigi, his grandfather Ferdinando was a well known tenor."

source of the coat of arms; Archives Heraldica Villardin, Milano.

The three towns mentioned in the coat of arms are in a triangle in the Italian northwest sector close to France and Switzerland.

From Lea Avedano:

According to Lea's memory Nonna and Nonno had nicknames for each of the children. "Tanno" for Gaetano, "Nina" for Elena, "GiGi" for Luigi, "Nandin" for Fred, "Eddy" for Edward, "DeDe" for Claude.

from Rose Martin:

This has been a labor of love and the desire to find out why my father and Eddy changed their name to Martin. To date (20 Nov. 1980) I haven't found out "why", but I have found a wonderful, large loving family spread all over the world. Descended from the original "twosome" of Ferdinando and Elena Avedano. I am so honored and grateful that God has seen fit to have me born into such a family. I love you all!

FOOTNOTE:

Additions and corrections please send to Rose L. Martin, 31687 Norrid Circle, Warren, Michigan 48092 or Lea Gugelman, 325 Sylvan Ave. #44, Mountain View, California 94041. Eventually I would like to include pictures of you all so please send me any available pictures. (clear print)



THE LETTER THAT STARTED IT ALL ! ! !

The following is a copy of the letter sent by Rosita to George Pickard concerning location of her family here in the states, and was our first contact with the fact that she existed!

FROM:

Mrs. Ivan Roach  
42 Main Street,  
Rouxville,  
Johannesburg  
2194  
SOUTH AFRICA

TO:

Mr. George Pickard  
Executive Director  
The Roller Skating Rink  
Operators Association of America.  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68510  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dear Mr. Pickard,

I am hoping you may be able to assist me in a personal matter - trying to trace some American cousins of mine by the name of MARTIN.

Being Italian born, I came to South Africa after the last war and am now living in Johannesburg with my present husband. As we are to holiday in the States later this year, I felt it would be wonderful if I could establish contact with family of my grandfather, who settled in the U.S.A. early in the century.

The last contact we had with this family was when FRED MARTIN (original family name AVEDANO) wrote to my Aunt in 1956. He advised her that he had retired from his position as Executive Secretary and Treasurer to the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association of America in Detroit and that he had settled in Fort Lauderdale in Florida. At the same time, however, he also mentioned that his position with the Association was being taken over by his son Bob (Robert?). He mentioned Bob's age as being 45, which should he still be living, would make him 69/70 this year. Fred Martin's letter also mentioned that Bob had two sons, Robert and George, who also lived in Detroit.

I am hoping that someone on your staff may know of the family or else, you may have their names on some "mailing list" relevant to your organization.

Mr. Pickard, I am sorry to have taken up so much of your time, but if you could assist me in any way - with either an address or possibly, if the family is in any way known to you, by having them write to me in Johannesburg, I will be eternally in your debt.

If, unfortunately, you or your Association has no knowledge of the family could I trouble you to let me know, as I will then have to try and make enquiries through other channels.

With all good wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

On the preceding page is the letter I received in an envelope from George Pickard. Since George had been a skating student of mine he knew of my family and its whereabouts. I also am indebted to him for his kind handling of this affair. Learning from Rosita of Uncle Cesare and Aunt Sylvia was great! Dad had mentioned having located Aunt Sylvia a few years before his death (1959)

Rose Martin

The following is Rosita's letter after returning home to Johannesburg, recounting her marvelous trip to the U.S. in September 1980.

Dearest Family:

How on earth does a person who has had an experience such as I had, start telling all you wonderful people how I feel, and what it has done to me. Since getting back home, daily in my mind I have a continuous parade of faces (now dear to me) of people who have given me so much happiness during our stay in the U.S. - - How can I ever say thank you with merely a pen in my hand, when what I would really like to do is hug you and tell you "I live you". Thank you all and each one for making our stay such a glorious one. Each of you gave Ivan and I so much warmth, made us feel so welcome in your homes, shared your life and went out of your way to show us some of your beautiful country. Most of all each of you have left me with such dear memories that sitting here now I am lost at finding words to express my gratitude.

Memories of our first meetings, our happy gatherings, our outings, your good humor, little individual mannerisms, sad goodbyes, all things which I will never forget and right now make me long to see you.

Our stay in New York was good, we did all the right things tourists should do whilst visiting this tremendous, monstrous, beautiful town. After leaving the U.S. Zurich as lovely as ever but Italy was an anti-climax! They (the Italians) have lost the meanings of such words as organization, work, service and many others. After losing our luggage (can you believe it) missing our connection between Milano and Turin(Torino) we finally arrived in Torino tired from arguing, gesticulating and frustration. Poor Italy! What a lot of changes in the last five years since our last visit. Very depressing. One consolation, we found Uncle Johnny well and happy to see us. We spent five days together and then again sad goodbyes.

The whole family was waiting for us at the airport and by the way they greeted us we felt our short five weeks absence was very long for them. The house was full of flowers, the gardens looked resplendent in its new spring dress and our doggies did not know which way to wag their tail to show us their happiness. After lunch the firing started and we had to answer one million and sixty four thousand questions. By evening I was quite punch drunk. The family are demanding (especially Helena) a full report on every member of the American family, what we did, what was said and so on. This will go on for months, because every day little episodes or happenings come to mind.

Then of course came the terrible part!! Going back to work. Ivan and I have drawn one conclusion! Work is definitely not our scene- we'd much rather be in vacation, going around the world. Of course by now we have been indoctrinated back to desks and combs!! But still the memories linger on. I find it very hard to describe each and every one of you, putting into words what Ivan and I found. Being with you all was an experience that only my heart knows the meaning of. It would be grand to know

Rosita's letter continues:

that some of you could plan your vacation here with us. Come on, be devils, and think of a future South African holiday.

You will I'm sure forgive my tardiness in writing this letter but it has taken me all this time to sort of settle down to a more or less normal life. For the moment I'll say "Cheerio" and "How're you doing"?

Rosita and Ivan  
October, 1980

AVEDANO DESCENDANTS BY GENERATION

- 1.) STARTING FROM: FERDINANDO AVEDANO, ELENA AVEDANO, CLAUDIA AVEDANO.
- 2.) Antonio Ferri, Gaetano Ferri (Grandmothers sons by first marriage) Claude Avedano, Elena (Nina) Avedano, Louis Avedano, Fred Avedano (Martin), Rosita Avedano, Cesare Avedano, Sylvia Avedano, Edward Avedano (Martin).  
Sylvia and Cesare are twins.
- 3.) F red Ferri, Howard Ferri, Edward Ferri, Claude Avedano Jr., Lea Avedano Gugelman, Robert Donald Martin, Clarice Martin Gerych, Marjorie Martin Mc Lauchlen, Roland Martin, Rose Martin, Rosita Avedano Roach, Hazel Pellerey Vidler, Roger Pellerey, Fred Pellerey, Louis Avedano Jr., Richard Martin, Donald Martin, E. LaVerne Martin Reynolds, Sirley Martin Beagle, Robert Leonard Martin, C. Dolores Martin Smith, Ronald Martin.
- 4.) Edward Ferri Jr., Elaine Avedano Hanna, Claudia Avedano, Paul Avedano David Avedano, Robert Dale Martin, George Martin, Ty Gerych Jr., Fred Gerych, Ken Gerych, Steven Gerych, Marjorie 'Midge' Nelson, Lynne Painter, Richard McLauchlen Jr., Diana Martin Williamson, Constance Martin, William Martin, Denise Blavatt Bruner, Joseph Blavatt III, Raymond Blavatt, Andrea Hunsanger, John Blavatt, Jerranne Blavatt, Laura Martin, Gary Martin, Mark Martin, Susan Martin, David Martin, Steven Martin, Catherine Reynolds Reese, Brian Reynolds, Alden Reynolds, Douglas Reynolds, Deborah Beagle, Richard Beagle, Donald Beagle, Ronald Beagle, Patrick Beagle, Patricia Beagle, D'Anna Beagle, Linda Smith Fields, Teri Martin, Kevin Martin Bradley Martin.
- 5.) Robert 'Robbie' Martin, Robert R. Martin, Sherry Martin, George Martin Jr., Holly Gerych, Tina Gerych, Lorel Gerych, Sherry Gerych, Ty Gerych III, Krysta Gerych, David Nelson, Darin Nelson (twins) Eric Nelson, Dawn Labiosa, Heather McLauchlen, Heidi McLauchlen (twins) Deanna Williamson, Jack Bruner Jr., Courtney Bruner, Gail Bruner, Brenda Hunsanger, Kurt Hunsanger, Derha Fawn Martin, Heather Reese, Kellie Beagle, Leslie Fields, Lisa Fields, Alicia Martin.

Putting the above listing together will perhaps, help the younger generations to see where they "fit" in.



PARAGRAPHS FROM FAMILY MEMBERS DURING OUR REUNIONS.

"Some of my fondest memories are of my childhood growing up with skaters and family. Getting together during the family reunions, I can't help but think that the newest members(my kids and those of my cousins) of the group are missing out on those great times that I had at the Arena and at the cottage. Back then we had a reunion every week. My wife, Shirley and two kids, Sherry 20, and Ty III 11, are probably tired of hearing me talk of my adventures. The sound of the streetcars and organ lulled me to sleep (except when my Uncle Dick whistled) Can't wait until we get together again next year."

Ty Gerych Jr. and Shirley

6/29/80

" Close, that's a good word to describe the Martin reunion. My wife Debbie loves the closeness of our family and how friendly they are. From all over the country the Martin's get together and it's all so very smooth. I really enjoyed myself, it's been twenty years, but I feel so comfortable. My wife and I have just started our life together, but I really hope our life with the family never ends."

William Arthur Martin and Debbie

6/29/80

" We have graduated from an evening gathering of the Martin Clan to our first full weekend. Also this is the first time we have had the Calif. Kentucky, Missouri Martin's at the reunion. It is important that we maintain this contact, even if we only gather once a year. It is a coincidence that Dad (Robert Donald Martin) would have been 70 years old today. I am sure that Grampa ( Fred) and Dad(Bob) would be proud of the size of this mob that we call family and that we do maintain the tie. Maybe we can have Connie, Midge, Lynn, Dickie and others and their offspring an attendance."

Bob and Pat Martin and Robbie

6/29/80

" I am Denise Laurene Bruner, oldest daughter of six children of Rose Lorraine Martin, youngest daughter of five children of Fred Martin. I am married to Jack Bruner Jr. and have three children, Jack III, Courtney, and Gail. We have had a wonderful time here in Sebawaing, Michigan getting to know everyone. I have had a great past in knowing all the immediate relatives and only hope to keep up the great relationships with the new generations of Martins.

Denise Laurene Bruner, Jack & Children

6/29/80

" It has been a marvelous experience getting together with the family after all so many years. Sure hope we'll be able to enjoy this time together for many years to come. I hope it won't be another 28 years.

Dick McLauchlen Sr.

6/29/80

" Having moved away from the family to Louisville, Ky. in 1961 Being able to attend this reunion in the summer of 1980 has been a truly fantastic happening!"

Roland and Mary Jane Martin

6/29/80

Paragraphs from Family Reunions(continued)

"Our wonderful weekend!! Oh, the excitement, laughing until our sides hurt. From the "Monsoon" rains Friday night at freezing temperatures to the glorious sunshine of Sunday morning! Two of my children, John and Jerrienne, with Otto Hahne, Jerrienne's fiance', are happy to share memories and laughter with our beloved family. Each year brings more information on the Avedano Heritage. Though not everyone can come each year, this was the biggest! I, and my group drove up from Warren, Mich. Our heartfelt thanks to Bob and Pat for their "Martin Camper City" and the hospitality of opening their home."

Rose Lorraine Martin  
6/30/80

"Sunshine and raindrops, snowflakes and moonbeams, these are the things that a family means! We may have a little or we may have a lot, but when it's all over...we're all that we've got!

In our hectic world, it's super nice to make the effort for one day or a weekend or whatever, to get together, so we can say.....

"WE ARE FAMILY!!"

Shirley Marie Martin Beagle  
6/30/80

"We are here in Sebawaing some 2250 miles from home. Having a great time visiting with all the relatives. Our group includes my wife, Judy daughter, Sherri, son George Jr., mother "Peg", and step-dad Harper. My oldest son Bob, is in school in Phoenix, Arizona. This 29th day of June, 1980 is the 70th anniversary of my father's birthday (Bob Martin)

Sherri Martin  
George Martin Jr.

Peg Spencer  
J. Harper Spencer

George Martin Sr.  
Judy Martin

6/29/80

"My name is Marjorie June McLauchlen, 59 yrs. of age, living in Plattsburg, Missouri for 17 yrs. We live in our business building in an apt. on the second floor. Our business is the Chicago Skate Supply Inc. owned by Chicago Roller Skate Co. in Chicago, Ill. a company over 70 years old. We were placed in a building that used to be a stable years ago, great for warehouse. Skating is our life, an extension of the business my father Fred Martin, introduced us to. So Dick and I sell skates to the mid-area of our country. This is our first attendance at our, now official, reunion of the "skating Martins". Each descendant and new ones attending are good looking and highly intelligent. Each person added to the family are warm outgoing people. Our little ones need to fall into this pattern. Outgoing talkers, with love for their fellow man. With today's unstable world situation, let us make this one of the most important parts of our life. Love is felt by all.

Marjorie June Martin McLauchlen  
6/29/80

" This is my third family reunion and they get better each year. This time I brought my oldest daughter's boyfriend, she's been seeing for 2½ years so he's almost a family member. So this year I looked forward to spending the weekend at the Martins' Campground in beautiful 'See-ba-wing'(ha,ha) Michigan. I know it's going to be fun.

Paragraphs from Family Reunions (continued)

(continued) I'm sorry the girls' mother couldn't make it this time but she sends her love and says Hi."

Fred B. Gerych  
6/29/80

A PARAGRAPH ABOUT ONE OF OUR COUSINS.....

ESTHER SILVIA AVEDANO PIZZITOLA: Nickname Lee, legally registered as Lea Elaine. Married name Lea Gugelman.

First granddaughter of the Avedano line. Uncle Antonio had no children and Uncle Gaetano had three sons. Robert D. Martin was the first grandchild (grandson) of the Avedano line.

Lea was born Nov. 11, 1911 (11-11-11) quite a coincidence.....she was also born at 11 PM at night in New York City, New York. Her mother was Elena (Nina) Avedano. Nina was a performing singer, a dramatic soprano, of the concert circuit. Her father was also a musician. Because of her mother's career, Lea spent early years traveling or staying with friends, relatives, and boarding schools. Lea says that she was much "the tomboy" while growing up. When Lea was 19 her mother was killed in a commuter train accident in Chicago, Illinois. Lea started work at the age of 17. Doing housework, working in a cookie factory, nurses aid, and General Electric Co. Married Alvin Gugelman in 1947. Al was in the U.S. Navy. With only a 3yr. stay in Kentucky during Al's Navy career, they lived in California. Al's family originally hails from Kansas of German, English, French descent. Al and Lea have no children and presently (1980) live in Mountain View, Calif. Al retired as a Chief Petty officer and is a boiler machinery inspector in civilian life. They plan to travel.



## THE FAMILY .....

As was mentioned earlier, our Grandmother, Elena Laijola Avedano was first married to Antonio Ferri. She had two sons, our half-uncles.

1. Antonio Ferri born in Marseilles, France. Married Maria. No children. He remained in Turin, Italy.
2. Gaetano Ferri born in Marseilles, France. Married Frieda (first marriage) They resided in San Francisco early 1900's and had three children. Fred, Howard, and Edward Ferri.
  - 2-1 Fred (no information at this time)
  - 2-2 Howard (no information at this time)
  - 2-3 Edward born San Francisco. Married Jerry (first marriage) They had no children. Married Cathy (second marriage) One son Edward Jr. was born and one adopted son, Robert. Edward Sr. passed away in 1979.
    - 2-3-1 Edward Jr.

Uncle "Tanno's" second marriage to Ann Hunger. No children.

## THE AVEDANO'S.....

3. Claude Avedano, born 1888) in Italy. Died San Francisco, California 1955. Married Ann Badaracco in San Francisco, Ca. They had one son Claude Jr. Uncle Claude lived in San Francisco and was employed by San Francisco Police Dept.
  - 3-1 Claude Jr. born April 27, 1923 in San Francisco. Married Rena Costanza (b. June 14, 1924) They have three children, Elaine, Claudia, and Paul. Claude Jr. was also on the S.F. Police Dept. as were his father and relatives on the maternal side.
    - 3-1-1 Elaine Anne born San Francisco Sept. 9, 1945. Married John Hanna (b. Jan. 1, 1947) Elaine is a college graduate and teaches grade school.
    - 3-1-2 Claudia Louise born San Francisco April 19, 1957.
    - 3-1-3 Paul Richard born San Francisco July 23, 1959. Paul is currently pursuing his college studies.

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4. Elena Avedano born in Italy 1889 Elena was better known to all as "Nina". Married Vito Pizzitola. They had one daughter, Lea Elaine. Aunt Nina was a concert operatic singer by profession. She died an accidental death in Chicago, Illinois in 1929.
  - 4-1 Lea Elaine born New York City, New York Nov. 11, 1911. Married Alvin Gugelman. They have no children.
  - 4-2 Nicholas Pizzitola. Died in infancy.

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5. Louis Avedano born in Italy 1890. Married Marie Bonini San Francisco Died 1928. Louis had one son, Louis Jr.
  - 5-1 Louis Jr. Born San Francisco Married Lena (Lee) Canziani. Louis Jr. has one son.

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6. Fred Avedano (Martin) born in Italy 1891. Changed name to Martin for professional reasons. Was a professional roller speed skater and rink operator. Instrumental in formation of the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association, governing body of all United States roller skating. Married Clara Dornback (b. Jan. 28, 1891) First marriage. Clara died in Chicago, Ill. 1928. Fred died Jan. 1959 in Detroit, Michigan. Fred and Clara had five children, Robert, Clarice, Marjorie, Roland, and Rose. Second marriage to Antoinette (Nettie) Dejewski. No children.
- 6-1 Robert Donald born San Francisco, Ca. June 29, 1910. Robert followed his father into rink business after becoming the youngest theatre manager in Chicago. He was Secretary-Treasurer of the RSROA and operated his own rink in Modesto Ca. at the time of his death in 1967. Robert (Bob) married Marie "Peggy" Sorrels in Chicago, Ill. Robert had two children, Robert Dale and George.
- 6-1-1 Robert Dale born Oct. 17, 1932 in Chicago, Ill. Married Patricia Jones. Robert and Pat are professional photographers along with their regular jobs. They have one son, Robert Jr.
- 6-1-1-1 Robert Dale Jr. (Robbie) born 1965. Robbie is currently attending Howe Military Academy and is in the 10th grade. He attained the honored rank of Eagle Scout in 1978.
- 6-1-2 George Malcolm born 1935 in Chicago, Ill. Married Judy in Modesto, Ca. George is currently Building Maintenance Supervisor for city of Modesto. George has three children, Robert Roland, Sherry Ann, and George Jr.
- 6-1-2-1 Robert Roland born Modesto, Ca. 1961 He is a graduate auto mechanic in Modesto, Ca.
- 6-1-2-2 Sherry Ann born Modesto, Ca. 1963 She is currently a senior in High School.
- 6-1-2-3 George Malcolm Jr. born Modesto, Ca. 1972. Georgeie is a bundle of energy!
- 6-2 Clarice Audrey Martin born Milwaukee, Wisconsin April 22, 1915 She was also a champion roller speed champion like her father and won many races, among them the first Transcontinental roller derby 1935 in Chicago, Ill. She married Ty Gerych in Detroit 1938. They had four sons, Ty Jr., Fred, Kenneth, and Steven. She died Jan. 1972 of a heart condition.
- 6-2-1 Tyrus Andrew Gerych Jr. born January 25, 1938 Detroit, Michigan. Blonde and blue eyed, he grew up in Detroit, finished school and joined the U.S. Marine Corps. Married Shirley Renaud. They have two children, Sherry Ann and Tyrus Andrew III.
- 6-2-1-1 Sherry Ann Gerych born Detroit, Mich. 1960
- 6-2-1-2 Tyrus Andrew Gerych III "Tiny Ty" as he was nicknamed to



- 6-2-2 Frederick Burton Gerych born Detroit, Michigan Feb. 24, 1939. Fred was named after his Grandad. Served in the U.S. Navy. Married Lori Novak. They Have three daughters, Holly, Tina, and Lorel.
- 6-2-2-1 Holly Ann Gerych born 1962 in Detroit, Michigan.
- 6-2-2-2 Tina Marie Gerych born 1966 in Detroit, Michigan.
- 6-2-2-3 Lorel Celyse Gerych born 1968 in Detroit, Michigan.
- 6-2-3 Kenneth Edward Gerych born Detroit, Michigan July, 1940. Served in U.S. Marine Corps. Married Donna Marie Richardson. They met in a roller rink. They have three sons, Scott, Todd, and Steven.
- 6-2-3-1 Scott Andrew Gerych born 1967.
- 6-2-3-2 Todd Gerych born 1969
- 6-2-3-3 Steven Gerych born 1971
- 6-2-4 Steven Keith Gerych fourth son of Clarice and Ty Gerych. Born Sept. 1949 in Detroit, Michigan. Steven and his two cousins Dick Jr. and Denise were all born within five months. Their mothers were sisters, Clarice, Marjorie and Rose. Steven is an excellent baseball player He works for K-Mart Corp. Married Brenda Kwik(divorced) They have one daughter, Krysta.
- 6-2-4-1 Krysta Gerych Born 1972.
- 6-3 Marjorie June Martin born Akron, Ohio March 18, 1921. She is a much admired and well known professional roller skating teacher. She and brother Bob, were featured in Time magazine in the '40's. She of all the Avedano grandchildren, possesses a beautiful singing voice and did study only to give it up to raise her family. Married Richard Holmes McLauchlen in 1941. Dick is also a Pro skating teacher and became the "Dean" of roller skating teachers society. Marge and Dick operate Chicago Skate Supply in Plattsburg, Mo. They also operate an open air skating rink there called Disco Skate Park. With their children and grandchildren they are a warm, loving family. Their three children are Midge, Lynn, and Dick Jr.
- 6-3-1 Marjorie June McLauchlen Jr. "Midge" for short! was born in Detroit, Michigan March 5, 1942. Married Dennis Nelson in Lafayette, Indiana (divorced) They have three children, twins-David and Darin, and Eric. She is at present a "right arm" to her mother and Dad. She is also a Postal Dept. employee in Plattsburg, Mo.
- 6-3-1-1 David Michael Nelson (following the Avedano line with twins) born Lafayette, Indiana Jan. 1966. Goes in for sports.
- 6-3-1-2 Darin Martin Nelson (twin to David) born Jan. 1966. What an exciting date that was!
- 6-3-1-3 Eric Nelson, Born Oct. 31, 1972. Curly headed bundle of energy!

- 6-3-2 Lynne Dee Mc Lauchlen. born Detroit, Michigan Aug.1945. Gave her Aunt Rose a good scare by deciding to arrive while her mother, Margie, and Aunt were at the local movies! Married Ozzie Labiosa (divorced) One daughter Angelina Dawn. Married Jim Carter (divorced) married R. Painter.
- 6-3-2-1 Angelina Dawn Labiosa born 1967. Dawnie is a beautiful effervescent young lady currently attending High School in Plattsburg, Mo. with her twin cousins David & Darin.
- 6-3-3 Richard Holmes McLauchlen Jr. born May 24, 1949 in Detroit, Michigan. One on the three cousins born close together. He became a medic during the Vietnam war after completing school in Plattsburg, Mo. Plays guitar and sings well. Married Shanna Simpson. They have twin daughters, Heidi and Heather. (following the Avedano line of twins)
- 6-3-3-1 Heather McLauchlen born 1980 Missouri.(twin)
- 6-3-3-2 Heidi McLauchlen born 1980 Missouri (twin)
- 6-4 Roland Arnold Martin born Sept. 9, 1924 in Chicago, Ill. Grew up in Chicago, Decatur and Detroit. Served in First Div. Marine Corps WWII seeing overseas service in Solomons Guadalcanal, Okinawa, and Tienstsin, China. Studied with Ford Motor Co. Currently with Ford Truck Div. in Kentucky Married Maxine first marriage (divorced) one daughter, Diane Marie. Married Mary Jane Coleman. Two children Constance Jane and William Arthur.
- 6-4-1 Diane Marie Martin born 1945. Married Charles Williamson One daughter Deanna.
- 6-4-1-1 Deanna Williamson born California 1964.
- 6-4-2 Constance Jane Martin born Detroit, Michigan 1950. Connie finished school in Louisville and made her way to settle in San Francisco, Ca. She is a nurse in the emergency of San Francisco General. She can make fantastic, delicious lemon pies from scratch!!!
- 6-4-3 William Arthur Martin born 1952 Detroit, Michigan. Bill served in U.S. Navy. Working with construction in Louisville. Married Debbie
- 6-5 Rose Lorraine Martin born Feb. 25, 1927 in Chicago, Ill. School in Decatur, Chicago, and Detroit, Mich. Graduated Northern High 1945. Became professional skating teacher 1944. Oil painting in spare time. Married Joseph Blavatt in 1947 (divorced) Six children, Denise, Joseph Jr., Ray, Andrea, John and Jerrienne. Currently still teaching skating in Troy, Michigan.
- 6-5-1 Denise Laurene Blavatt born Detroit, Mich. May 27, 1949. Small but mighty Denise was a regional speed skating champion. Finished school in Warren, Mich. Married Jack Bruner in 1968. Three children Jack Jr., Courtney, and Gail.

- 6-5-1-1 Jack Thomas Bruner III born Detroit, Mich. 1968. Interested in sports and currently attending St. Clement Jr. High in Centerline, Mich.
- 6-5-1-2 Courtney Leigh Bruner born Warren, Mich. August 1975. Courtney loves roller skating and dancing.
- 6-5-1-3 Gail Meredith Bruner born Warren, Mich. March, 1979 She hasn't learned to walk...she's learned to RUN! Never still for a minute and talkes a stream...now if we could just understand her lingo!
- 6-5-2 Joseph James Blavatt III born Detroit, Mich. Sept. 1953. Always good with eletronic gadgets from childhood he now makes a living at it. Finished school in Warren, Mich. Enjoyed competitive skating until finished school. Married Deborah Max (divorced) Married Patricia Steinborn in Ypsilanti, Mich. Jan. 1979.
- 6-5-3 Raymond Charles Blavatt born Detroit, Mich. April 1955. Weighed in at 9lbs. 6 oz. at birth and grew up to be a tall young man at 6'4"..completed school in Warren and went west to make his life in California. Married Cathy Pearson July 1980. Both are artists.
- 6-5-4 Andrea Clare Blavatt born Portland, Oregon Nov. 1956. A very smiley, happy child she like speed skating and also like her sister became a regional champion. She completed school in Warren, Mich. Married Rod Hunsanger and they have two children, Brenda and Kurt. Andrea also teaches skating as did her sister Denise and her parents and grandparents.
- 6-5-5 John Frederick Blavatt born Portland, Oregon March 1958. Always interested in art and music. He has taught himself music and can compose. Finished school in Warren, Mich.
- 6-5-6 Jerrienne Blavatt born Moses Lake, Washington Sept. 1960 Enjoyed competitive skating as did her brothers and sister s. She won Mich. skate dance championship in 1977. She finished school in Warren, Mich. Office work was what she liked, currently secretary to the manager Somerset Apts. Troy, Mich.

Fred (Avedano)Martin married Antoinette Dejewski (second marriage) 1930 no children from this marriage.

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- 7. Rosita Avedano born in Italy Died San Francisco, Ca. of meningitis at age 8.

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- 8. Sylvia Avedano born Italy 1895 (?) twin to Cesare. Came to U.S. early 1900's returned to Italy with mother, Elena (Grandma Nonna) Married Roger Pellerey. Three children, Hazel, Roger, and Fred.

- 8-1 Hazel Pellerey born in France Our first contact with Hazel's family in 1980.
- 8-2 Roger Pellerey born in France

8-3      Fred Pellerey born in France

The above three cousins live in France. Hazel in Paris and her brothers in St. Gervais in the French Alps.

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9.      Cesare Avedano Born in Italy twin to Sylvia. Came to the U.S. with our grandfather in early 1900's. Returned to Italy just before WWI with Nonna, Sylvia and Edward. Served in the Italian army. Married Lina Cucatto. One daughter, Rosita.

9-1      Rosita Avedano born in Italy 1929. Married Charles Bothma (divorced) One daughter, Helena. Married Ivan Roach.

9-1-1      Helena Bothma born in                      . Married and divorced. No children. Helena is currently working with the South African stock exchange. First woman to work on the floor of the exchange there. She lives in Johannesburg, South Africa as does her mother, Rosita.

Ivan, Rosita's husband, has a son by his first marriage, Richard. Richard and his wife have a son and daughter, Wayne and Carolyn, who although not blood related are indeed a part of her family and her grandchildren.

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10.      Edward (Avedano) Martin born in Italy in 1898 died in Michigan in 1961. Edward came to U.S. with the family in early 1900's. He returned to Italy with Sylvia, Cesare, and his mother. Served in the Italian army WWI. Was taken prisoner by the Germans and liberated by the Americans. He returned to the U.S. to join his brother Fred in Chicago, Illinois. Married Josephine Marie Tierney. They had 8 children, Richard, Russell, Donald, LaVerne, Shirley, Dolores, Robert, and Ronald.

10-1      Richard Martin born Chicago, Ill. 1926 Married Virginia DeCook. Three children, Laura, Gary, & Mark.

10-1-1      Laura Lee Martin born 1950 One daughter, Derha Fawn.

10-1-1-1      Derha Fawn

10-1-2      Gary Martin born 1952 Married Debra  
They have one daughter, Alicia.

10-1-2-1      Alicia Martin Born

10-1-3      Mark Martin Born 1959

10-2      Russell Martin born Chicago, Ill. died in infancy.

10-3      Donald Edward Martin Born 1928 . Donald was a speed skater of national caliber. Married Dorothy Conroy. They have three children, Susan Kay, David, and Steven.

10-3-1      Susan Kay born 1957

10-3-2      David Russell born 1958

10-3-3      Steven Edward born 1961

10-4 Elizabeth La Verne Martin born 1929. Always called LaVerne. Married Ivan Reynolds. Four children, Catherine, Alden, Brian, Douglas.

10-4-1 Catherine Reynolds born 1953. Married Daniel Reese. One daughter, Heather born 1975.

10-4-1-1 Heather Reese born 1975.

10-4-2 Alden Reynolds born 1956. Died 1968 of cystic fibrosis.

10-4-3 Brian Reynolds born 1958

10-4-4 Douglas Reynolds born 1964. Died 1978 cystic fibrosis.

10-5 Shirley Marie Martin born 1930. Shirl became an American speed skating champion. Married Richard Beagle. Seven children, Deborah, Richard, Donald, Ronald, Patrick, Patricia, D'Anne. Presently living in Commerce, Mich. in the sand and gravel business.

10-5-1 Deborah Louise Beagle born 1950

10-5-2 Richard Keith Beagle born 1952

10-5-3 Donald Beagle born 1954. Married Dianne Doraheimer.

10-5-4 Ronald Beagle born 1955. Married Sandra  
One daughter born 1978 Kelli Richelle.

10-5-4-1 Kelli Richelle Beagle born 1978

10-5-5 Patrick Beagle born

10-5-6 Patricia Beagle born 1971.

10-5-7 D'Anne Beagle born 1972.

10-6 Catherine Dolores Martin. born 1932. All through her childhood lovingly called DoDo by her family and cousins. She was a skater like the rest of us. Married Roy Charles Smith. One daughter Linda Marie.

10-6-1 Linda Marie Smith born 1958. Married Rick Field (divorced) Two children, Leslie and Lisa.

10-6-1-1 Leslie Field born 1976

10-6-1-2 Lisa Field born 1977

10-7 Robert Leonard Martin born 1934. Bobby Leonard was an American speed skating champion. Also became a speed coach during later years.

10-8 Freddie Ronald Martin born 1941. Married Sally Ann Smith. Three children Teri, Kevin, and Bradley. Ronnie was like the rest of his family and cousins when it came to roller skating. He also coached it. His sons are into ice hockey.

10-8-1 Teri Rae Martin born 1962

10-8-2 Kevin Michael Martin born 1966

10-8-3 Bradley Edward Martin born 1971



LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!!

AVEDANO FAMILY ADDRESSES

Lea Gugelman  
325 Sylvan Ave. #44  
Mountain View, Ca. 94041

Denise & Jack Bruner  
25250 Roan  
Warren, Mich. 48089

Jerrienne Blavatt  
John Blavatt  
31687 Norrid Circle  
Warren, Mich. 48092

Ken & Donna Gerych  
43159 Lombardy Dr.  
Canton, Mich. 48187

Shirley & Richard Beagle  
1855 Hollingsworth  
Walled Lake, Mich. 48088

Bill & Debbie Martin  
2005 Lambert Ct.  
Louisville, Ky.

Diane Martin Williamson  
1652 Sacramento Dr.  
Merced, Ca. 95040

Deborah Beagle  
104 Roe  
Pontiac, Mich. 48054

Louis & Lee Avedano  
4 Taylor St.  
San Rafael, Ca. 94901

Peg Martin Spencer  
123 Paddack Manor  
Escalon, Ca. 95320

Donald & Dorothy Martin  
4875 Gilbo  
Pontiac, Mich. 48054

George & Judy Martin  
1521 Sunrise  
Modesto, Ca 95350

Roland & Mary Jane Martin  
601 Elsmere Ct.  
Anchorage, Ky 40223

Claude & Rena Avedano  
P.O. Box 242  
Cloverdale, Ca. 95425

Joe & Pat Blavatt  
2429 Lake in the Woods #710  
Ypsilanti, Mich. 48197

Raymond & Cathy Blavatt  
4840 Del Monte Apt. F  
San Diego, Ca. 92107

Ty & Shirley Gerych  
10836 Cartier  
Brighton, Mich. 48116

Dick & Shanna McLauchlen  
c/o P.O. Box 356  
Plattsburg, Mo. 64477

Robert L. Martin  
856 Central  
Lake Orion, Mich. 48035

Deanna Williamson  
1652 Sacramento Dr.  
Merced, Ca. 95040

Donald & Diane Beagle  
22280 Swan  
South Lyon, Mich. 48178

Andrea & Rod Hunsanger  
30830 Lund  
Warren, Mich. 48093

Steven Gerych  
c/o 4611 Lincoln  
Dearborn Hts., Mich. 48125

Susan Martin  
David Martin  
Steven Martin  
All at the Gilbo Address, Pontiac.

Robert R., Sherry, & George Martin  
all at the Sunrise address, Modesto.

Richard & Virginia Martin  
Rt.2 Box 134  
Phillipsburg, N.J. 08865

Gary & Debra, Mark Martin  
all at the Phillipsburg Address.

Ronald & Sally Martin  
4721 Sundew  
Union Lake, Mich.

Marge & Dick McLauchlen  
P.O. Box 356  
Plattsburg, Mo 64477

Rosita & Ivan Roach  
42 Main St.  
Rouxville, Johannesburg  
South Africa 2192

Ronald & Sandra Beagle  
8713 Candlewood  
Brighton, Mich. 48116

Connie Martin  
130 Hale  
San Francisco, Ca. 94134

Elaine & John Hanna  
20971 Almaden Rd.  
San Jose, Ca. 95120

Holly, Tina, Lorel Gerych  
c/o 7295 Rosemont  
Detroit, Mich. 48228

Ty Gerych III  
10836 Cartier  
Brighton, Mich. 48116

Jack, Courtney, & Gail Bruner  
all at the Roan St. address.

Midge Nelson  
c/o Box 356  
Plattsburg, Mo 64477

Dawn Labiosa  
c/o Box 356  
Plattsburg, Mo 64477

Ty & Caroline Gerych  
4611 Lincoln  
Dearborn Hts. Mich 48125

Bob & Pat Martin  
554 Brunswick Lane  
Sebewaing, Mich. 48759

Teri, Kevin, and Bradley Martin  
all at the Sundew address.

Helena Wolf  
c/o Roach  
42 Main St.  
Rouxville, Johannesburg  
South Africa 2192

Hazel Vidler  
4 Rue Francisque Sarcey  
Paris 16 enne France

Patrick, Patricia, & D'Anna Beagle  
all at the Hollingsworth address.

Rose Martin  
31687 Norrid Circle  
Warren, Mich. 48092

Paul Avedano  
Claudia Avedano  
both c/o Cloverdale, Ca. address.

Scott, Todd & Steven Gerych  
all at the Lombardy St. address.

Robert (Robbie) Martin  
554 Brunswick Lane  
Sebewaing, Mich. 48759

Brenda Hunsanger  
Kurt Hunsanger  
at the Lund St. address

David, Darin, & Eric Nelson  
all c/o the Plattsburg address

LaVerne & Ivan Reynolds  
164 Jeffrey Ave.  
North Port Charlotte  
Venice, Florida 33595

